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House Passes Department of Defense Appropriation Bill  
*Akin states bill has good news for military and St. Louis region*

Washington, D.C.- The House of Representatives passed today the Defense Appropriations Conference Report (H.R. 3222), which contained various legislative requests by Congressman Akin, ranking member of the House Armed Services Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee.

"The passage of the conference report represents an important step in providing our men and women in uniform with the resources and equipment that they need as they work to provide security for our nation," said Akin. "There is also some good news for area defense contractors who make significant contributions to our military capability and readiness."

The legislation includes \$1.3 Billion in funding for 18 EA-18G electronic attack aircraft. The production of the EA-18G is a project long championed by Congressman Akin. The EA-18G is a Super Hornet version of a radar jamming aircraft which is replacing the Navy's aging fleet of "Prowlers" that are now used to jam enemy radar and electronically counter attempts to attack U.S. aircraft during combat. The EA-18Gs are built by Boeing in St. Louis.

"As a member of the House Armed Services Committee, the EA-18G has been one of my priorities as it greatly enhances our strike capability and mission survivability," said Akin.

H.R. 3222 also provides funding for other noteworthy defense projects based in the St. Louis Region including \$2.0 Billion for 24 F/A-18E/F Super Hornet Fighters, \$3.4 Billion for Future Combat Systems, and \$113 Million for Joint Defense Attack Munitions manufactured in St. Charles.

Congressman Akin also secured funding for the following projects: Hyperspectral Sensors for improved force protection; Joint Stand Off Weapon RDT&E; High Power Lightweight Zinc-Air Battery; Self-Decontaminating Polymer System for Chemical and Biological Warfare Agents; Special Operations Forces Advanced Mission Planning Tools; Copper Antimicrobial Research Program; Chem Bio Protective Shelter; Hueristic Internet Protocol Packet Inspection

Engine; Thin Lithium-Iron Disulfide Primary Batteries; Depot AIT (D-AIT) at ANAD and RRAD.